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SUBJECT: PORTUGAL'S REPLY TO CALL FOR THE 2009 SECRETARY'S
AWARD FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN OF COURAGE

REF: SECSTATE 99729

Per reftel request, post has reviewed possible nominees for the Secretary of State's 2009 Award for International Women of Courage (IWOC). Portugal has a number of prominent women who have shown leadership in advocating for women's rights and advancement, and in furthering the cause of freedom, justice, peace, and equality. However, given the generally positive climate for women, no candidates meet the specific criteria for this award. As a result, post does not have a candidate to nominate this year.
STEPHENSON